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Obituary; 2016-10-02; Jones, Eliza Davis

Hopewell Baptist Church

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from
**LABOR to
REWARD**
THE LEGACY CONTINUES

REMEMBERING THE VICTORIOUS LIFE
OF

Eliza **DAVIS
JONES**

GOD SMILED | NOVEMBER 20, 1936 -

GOD SET FREE | OCTOBER 2, 2016

HER LEGACY | HER LIFE | HER LOVE

HER LEGACY | HER LIFE | HER LOVE
REMEMBERING THE VICTORIOUS LIFE OF

Eliza Davis - Jones



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2016

Viewing & Visitation

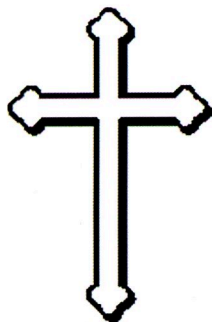
11:00 am

Victory Celebration

12:00 pm

Mt. Olive Baptist Church

701 E. DELAVAN AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14215



Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr.

HOPEWELL BAPTIST CHURCH
EULOGIST

REMEMBERING
HER LEGACY | HER LIFE | HER LOVE

THE VICTORIOUS LIFE OF

Eliza Davis - Jones



Eliza Williams Davis-Jones (affectionately known as "Madam President") was born on Friday, November 20, 1936 in the small southern town of Mt. Olive, Mississippi. Her parents, Reverend Fred and Willie B. Williams, raised her and her eleven siblings to know and love the Lord as their Savior. After graduating from high school at the age of sixteen, Eliza joined her older brother, Ray, in Buffalo, New York, where she met and fell in love with the late James H. Davis. Their marriage was blessed with three children: James H., Jr., Dawn M. and Lisa C. Eliza and James, Sr. instilled in their children the same love for the Lord and Christian values that she was raised with. Later, her husband became Pastor of Ascending Baptist church and Eliza served the congregation well as their First Lady. She always credited her husband and children's support as an important factor in her accomplishments.

Eliza's compassionate heart and sincere love for people led her into a long career in nursing. She started out as a hospital "Candy Striper", went on to receive her LPN degree from the Millard Fillmore Hospital School of Nursing and eventually earned her RN degree from Erie Community College. In 1997, after more than 40 years in the field Eliza retired. During her time working, she became a charge nurse in the Emergency Room of Millard Fillmore Hospital and then went on to work at various clinical sites in the Kaleida Health Network. In recognition of her dedication to her profession she was presented with the key to the City of Buffalo on November 14th of that year, which was proclaimed Eliza-Davis Jones, RN Day.

Loving and caring for people went far beyond Eliza's chosen profession. Upon becoming a member of New Hope Baptist Church under the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. Paul F. Thompson, Eliza served faithfully for over 27 years. Her work there included teaching Sunday School, assistant Sunday School Superintendent, Missions Ministry, president of the Women's Ministry, chairperson of the Personnel Committee, choir member, and Vacation Bible School worker. Upon becoming a member of Hopewell Baptist Church, under Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr., she immediately became involved with the Missions Ministry and Vacation Bible School, as well as regularly attending Sunday School and Bible Study. She remained active and committed in her service at Hopewell as long as her health allowed her to do so.

One of her greatest passions was her involvement with local, state and national church associations. After her retirement, it would be hard to name a Baptist Conference or Congress of Christian education anywhere in the country that Eliza did not attend! She was especially proud to be a part of the Great Lakes Baptist District Association where she served on many committees throughout the years. Within the Great Lakes, she served as Recording Secretary and as President of the Women's Ministry. In 2013, she received the Cynthia P. Ray Service Award from the Empire Baptist Missionary Convention.

Eliza was an entrepreneur, having started and run several businesses, including a visiting nurses service. She also organized a backyard Vacation Bible School, which ran for several years at her home. Because of her commitment to her job, church, and community, Eliza was the recipient of numerous awards and accolades throughout her lifetime.

Eliza was also an avid sports fan. Being small of stature, you probably wouldn't guess that she played basketball in her younger days. As an adult, she was a golfer who couldn't wait for Buffalo's winters to end, so she could hit the links! She was a member of the Delaware Ladies' Golf League, Grover Women's League, and one of the founders of the Buffalo Interfaith Network of Golfers. She also encouraged young people to get involved in golf and other sports through her participation in and support of recreational programs for youth.

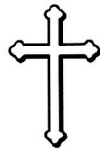
She loved to travel, citing Florida, Los Angeles, and New York City as her favorite places. She also loved to cook and entertain. Her home was always open, and she was happiest when the house was filled with family and friends eating, laughing, and having a good time.

Eliza was preceded in death by her parents, Reverend Fred and Willie B. Williams; a daughter, Dawn M. Ballard; three brothers, Fred, Robert and Reverend Charles Williams; a sister, Elizabeth Williams; husbands, Reverend James H. Davis, Sr. and Frankie L. Jones and a grandson, Leroy D. Lewis.

Eliza had one goal in life - to serve her Lord and Savior. In her words, "I was taught by my parents that you serve Christ by serving others. Each day of my life finds me reaching out to someone through word or deed." Having reached her goal, on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at approximately 7:00 am, the Savior opened His arms, welcomed Eliza into His eternal rest and spoke the words she had lived her life longing to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Her legacy of love will live on in her son, Reverend James H. (Karen) Davis, Jr.; daughter Lisa C. (Gregory) Napier; seven grandchildren, Sherrell Ferguson, Maria Ballard, LaShari (Sammie) Davis-Merricks, April Adams, James H. (Talea) Davis III, Josef and Nathan Napier; eightenn great-grandchildren; four brothers, Reverend Walter (Lena), Richard (Sherri), James and Clyde (Faith) Williams; three sisters, Earlene Poole, Willie Jean (Holley) Jones, and Queen (Milton) Lamar; stepdaughters, Laura (Milton) Haslam and Ann (Sam) Blackburn. Precious memories will also be cherished by many nieces and nephews, cousins, other family members and friends.

Order of Celebration



11:00 am – Viewing Celebration

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

THE PROCESSIONAL

Clergy and Family

*Pastor Gillison
Pastor & Ministers
of the Gospel*

12:00 pm – Victory Celebration



SEALING OF THE BIER

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

The Family

HYMN OF COMFORT

Hopewell Baptist Church Choir

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Pastor Ted Howard

EDISON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Psalms 23

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

*Rev. Dr. Kenneth Terrell
Pastor Jerusalem B.C.*

THE NEW TESTAMENT

II Timothy 4:7-8

"I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT"

*Pastor Clyde Williams - Greater St. Paul
St. Petersburg*

SOLO

Sister Betty Debose

Order of Celebration

Love - Association

TRIBUTES

(In Consideration of the Family, Please limit to **TWO** Minutes)

Pastor William Gillison

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, BUFFALO, NEW YORK
MODERATOR, GREAT LAKES BAPTIST DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Pastor Herman Alston, Jr.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, BUFFALO, NEW YORK
AREA 1 & 2 VICE-PRESIDENT, EMPIRE BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION

Sister Walterine Stribling

PRESIDENT, WOMEN'S MINISTRY EMPIRE BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION

Sister Rose Harmon

PRESIDENT, WOMEN'S MINISTRY GREAT LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Sister Bertha Robinson

FRIEND
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, BUFFALO, NY

1st Vice Moderate

Emmette Myrick

Presidents

Laper - Uskers

Perry - Laymen

Reflections of the Family

Sister Maria Ballard

GRANDDAUGHTER

Pastor Clyde Williams

BROTHER

Rev. Larry Williams - son of

Rev. Dr. Walter Williams

Sister Lisa Napier

DAUGHTER

Reverend James H. Davis, Jr.

SON

SELECTION

Hopewell Baptist Church Choir

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND

READING OF LIFE LEGACY

Sister Karen Davis

SOLO

Deacon Darrell M. Saxon II

WORDS OF COMFORT

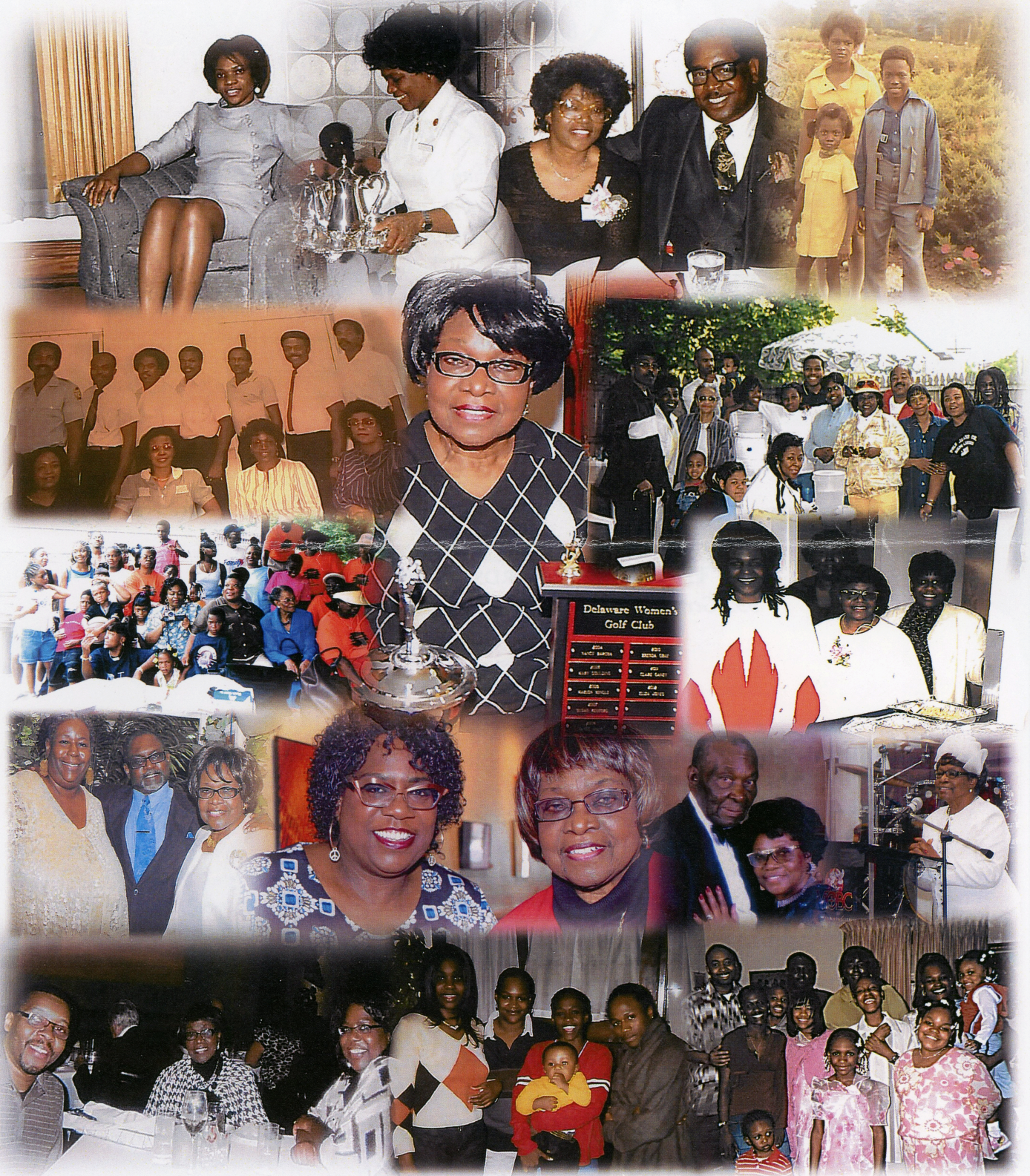
Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr.

HOPWELL BAPTIST CHURCH, BUFFALO, NY

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

RECESSIONAL

Her Legacy Continues...



Pallbearers

Brother Derrick Boone
Brother Germone Threet
Brother Josef Napier
Brother Gregory Napier
Brother Jarrod Stroud
Brother Sammie Merricks

Honorary Pallbearers

Brother Nathan Napier
Brother Damon Davis
Brother Jeremiah Burrell
Brother James H. Davis III
Brother James H. Davis IV

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Care of Our Loved One has been entrusted to:

Auspices

THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC.
995 Genesee Street | Buffalo, New York 14211 | 716.894.4888

Interment

FOREST LAWN CEMETERY
1411 Delaware Avenue | Buffalo, New York 14209

To God be the Glory!

For those who have come to share their love and celebrate with us today...

Words seem inadequate when thinking how to show our gratitude.

Your hugs, laughter and tears are a reminder of the beautiful soul that has departed this earthly existence and yet, reminds us that there will be an even more joyful reunion in our futures. Continue to pray that God will strengthen and guide our paths and that we never lose site of the One who indeed sustains and keeps us under His care.

We ask that when tomorrow comes you will continue to Pray for us.

Special thank you to Pastor Dennis Lee, Jr. and the Hopewell Family; Pastor William Gillison and the Mt. Olive Family; Nieces Audrey Boone and Cindy Stroud; Bertha Robinson, Natasha Thomas and Hospice Care.

We are Thankful to Jesus who provides life. We are Blessed!

THE FAMILY OF

Eliza Davis - Jones